

British Values Policy



St. Luke's & Moreland Federation

Promoting British Values at Moreland and St Luke's Primary Schools

The DFE have recently reinforced the need, *"to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs."*

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2011 and 2015 Prevent Strategy and these values have been reiterated by the Prime Minister this year. In our schools these values are reinforced regularly and in the following ways:

Democracy:

Democracy is integral to life in Moreland and St Luke's Primary Schools. Pupils have the opportunity in all year groups to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. The elections of Head Boy/Girl and Deputies are based solely on pupil votes. Each child is responsible for self-nomination and preparing their own manifesto that they share and campaign for within the school. Each term two new members of the school council are also selected, again elected and voted for within each class.

Children are also able to nominate and vote for children to achieve rewards and certificates throughout the year.

Children have an annual questionnaire with which they are able to put forward their genuine views and opinions about the school. This questionnaire is from the governors and the EHT who actively seek the views of children. Year Five and Six children participate in Debate it. This is an after school provision run by Hogan Lovell, where children are able to express their own opinions and viewpoints through discussion and debates surrounding local and wider issues in the news. These debates involve local schools. Moreland won the Primary Debate competition for 2014 sponsored by Hogan Lovell and came third in 2015. St Luke's came first in 2015.

A majority of teachers have completed the Level 1 P4C (Philosophy for Children) qualification- new teachers are scheduled to complete this training shortly but have had basic training to get them started. Lessons encourage children to discuss, question and enquire 'Big' philosophical ideas as well as every-day issues. This is also reciprocated within the Literacy curriculum throughout the school when children have genuine opportunities to discuss and debate.

The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through whole school assemblies at Moreland and St Luke's. Pupils are taught from an early age, the value and reasons behind rules and laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when rules and laws are broken. In school children are taught to follow and respect the 'Moreland Way' and 'The St Luke's Way'. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind these rules – that they keep each other safe and secure.

Visits from authorities in our dream catcher assemblies, such as the Police; Fire Service; Lifeguards etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. This also includes visits from our chair of governors who is a local Barrister and QC. All visitors are carefully vetted.

Individual Liberty:

Within both schools, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. We educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and advise how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety, P4C, RE, PSHE and other lessons where teachers feel there is a relevant opportunity. Whether it is through choice of challenge, of how they record their thinking, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

Mutual Respect:

Mutual respect is at the heart of both school ethos and behaviour policies and has revolved around Core Values such as 'Respect'. When formulating the behaviour policy pupils were part of discussions and assemblies related to what respect means and how it is shown to others; especially through following the schools behaviour systems. Posters around the school promote respect for others and this is reiterated through our classroom and the St Luke's and Moreland Way, as well as our behaviour policy. Children learn that their behaviour, views and opinions have an effect on their own rights and those of others. All members of the school community treat each other with respect.

Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. Assemblies and discussions involving prejudices and prejudice-based bullying have been followed and supported by learning in RE, PSHE, P4C, E-safety lessons as well as other relevant links. Members of different faiths or religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within classes and the school.

We actively challenge pupils, staff or parents expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values and the Rule of Law including 'extremist' views. We have a duty to ensure we do not place religious laws ahead of the British judicial system or teach anything that undermines the English civil and criminal law. We have a very broad and balanced curriculum in both schools and we do our best to teach good citizenship, preparing children for life in modern Britain whilst promoting British values. Mutual tolerance and respect is at the central to life in Moreland and St Luke's Schools. The school's Global Citizenship curriculum explicitly teaches and makes links to the British Values identified above.